From: Richard de los Santos

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/24/02 6:43am

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I do not agree with the proposed settle that Microsoft has been sentenced to pay. In reality it is not punishment at all. It will only allow Microsoft to tighten its hold on the education market. Many Schools are trying to move to Open Source because of the draconian practices of Microsoft.

What Microsoft needs to do it pay (CASH) large sums of money to a foundation that will properly distribute it to schools that need it. Doing this will allow districts to purchase the hardware and software that they NEED and want.

Look at the schools that are already having problems with Microsoft. For many they are having to pay large fines for "piracy". The piracy is simply a result of not being able to afford the packages Microsoft offers or not being supplied appropriate assistance in using the applications correctly. The country's school systems are bad enough without corporate lawyers breathing down the back of their necks.